

Boys + X = Reading

Solve for X

Dr. James Nicosia

Welcome!

I'm Dr. Jim Nicosia



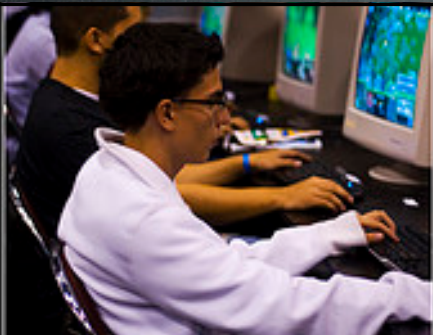
Reluctant readers aren't always reluctant. Often they have had their reading "switch" turned off.

**“The perception that reading is boring
and a chore can be death to a young
reader’s development.”**

Drego Little,
“What do boys like to read? Ask them.”



Do you know this young man?



**Who are
“just your average kids”?**



**Boys at
play?!**



Sugar and spice;
Boys will be boys.

We still
perpetuate
THESE
images?!





With these ideas in mind, how can we help them transition from this stage of innocence...



Beyond apathy

And on the road to
maturation without
squelching their
sense of self?

By age 14,
boys are
14% behind
girls in
national test
results for
English, and
the gap is
expanding!





What can we do in our
classes to help?

Can our reading curriculum
aid in the transition?





If so, what books will engage
reluctant boys?

The See-Saw of Educational Theory



*Transactional criticism
tries to find ways to bring
text to reader
and reader to text*

- Reader-Response criticism
(all meaning lies in
the reader)
- Whole Language theory
- *serves the student first*

- New Criticism
(all meaning lies
in the text)
 - Phonics
 - *serves the
curriculum first*



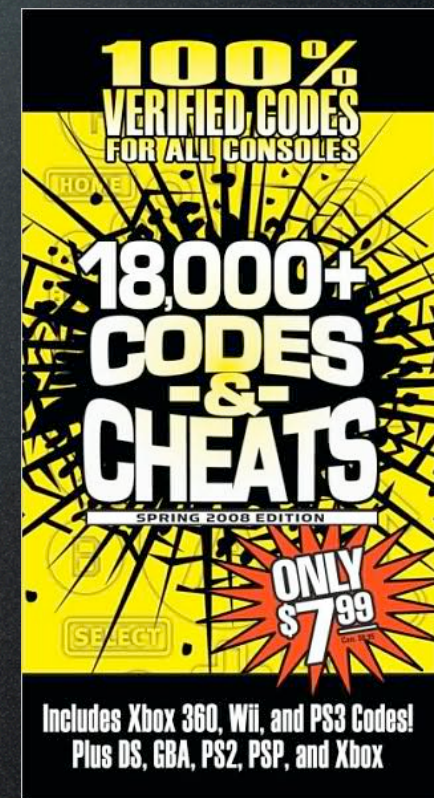
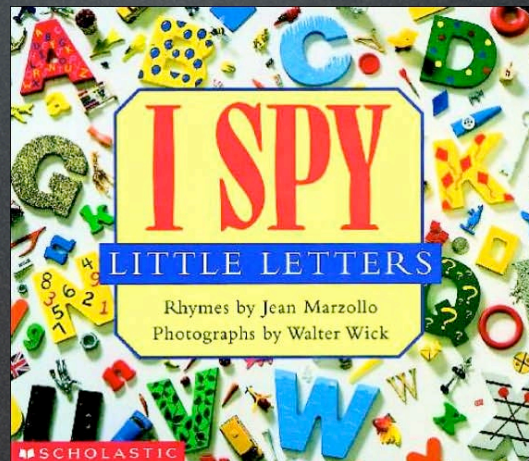
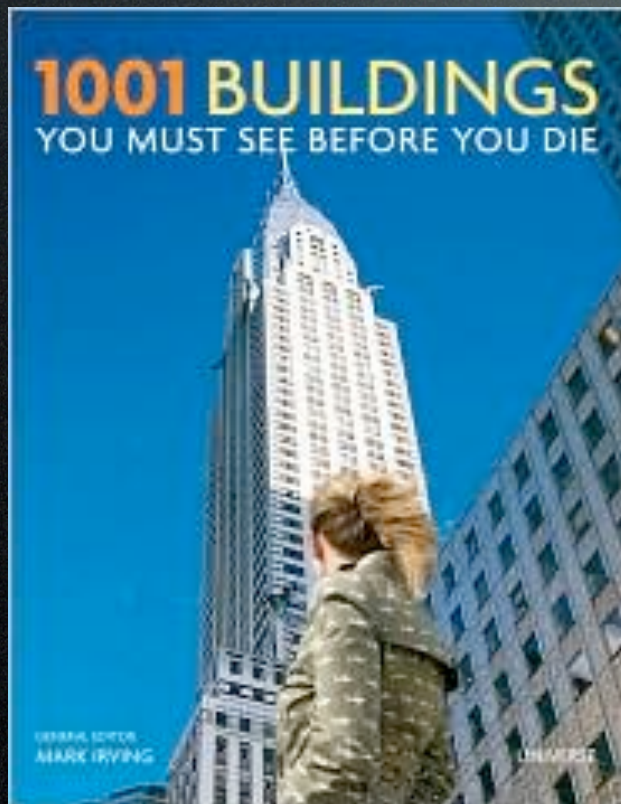
**As educators, we
need to concern
ourselves with
one fundamental
question:**

**What do we want students
to get from reading?**

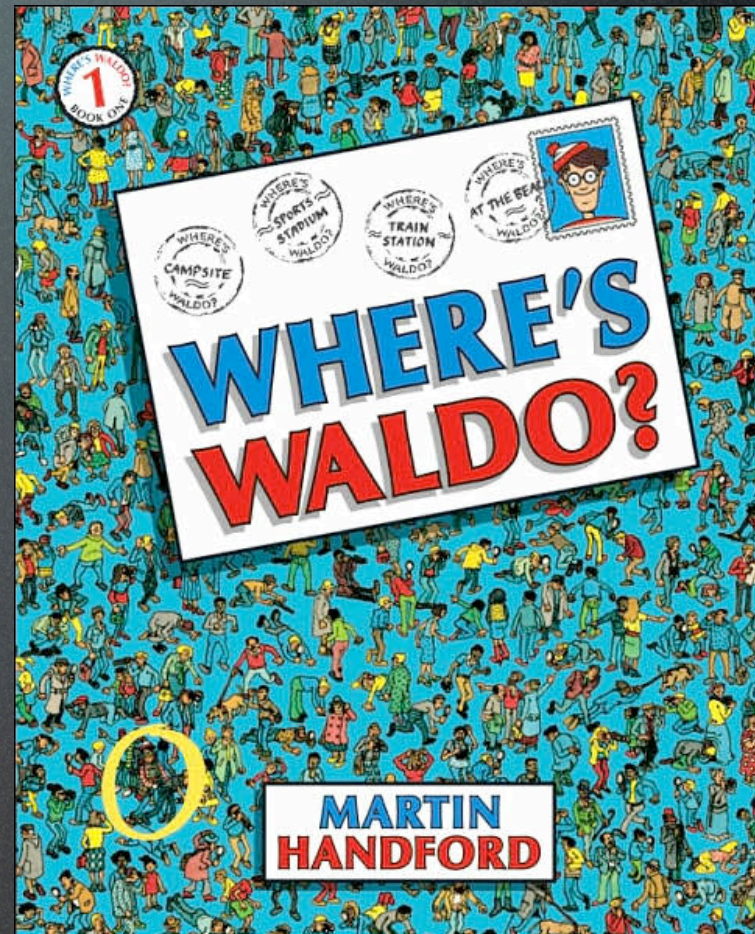
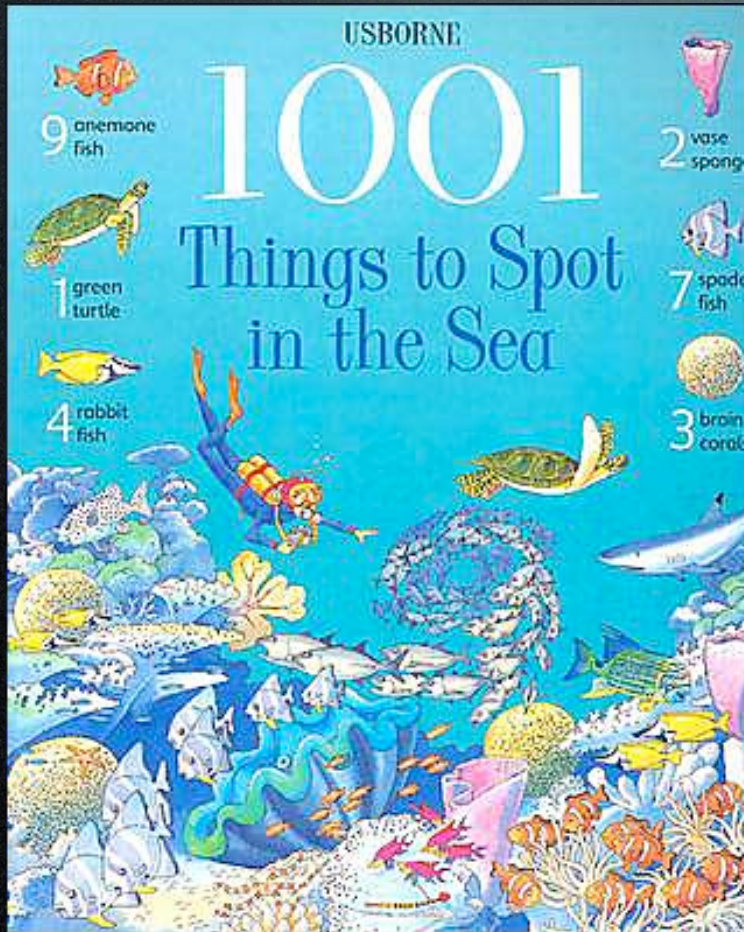


Are these boys reading?

Are these examples of “good reading?”

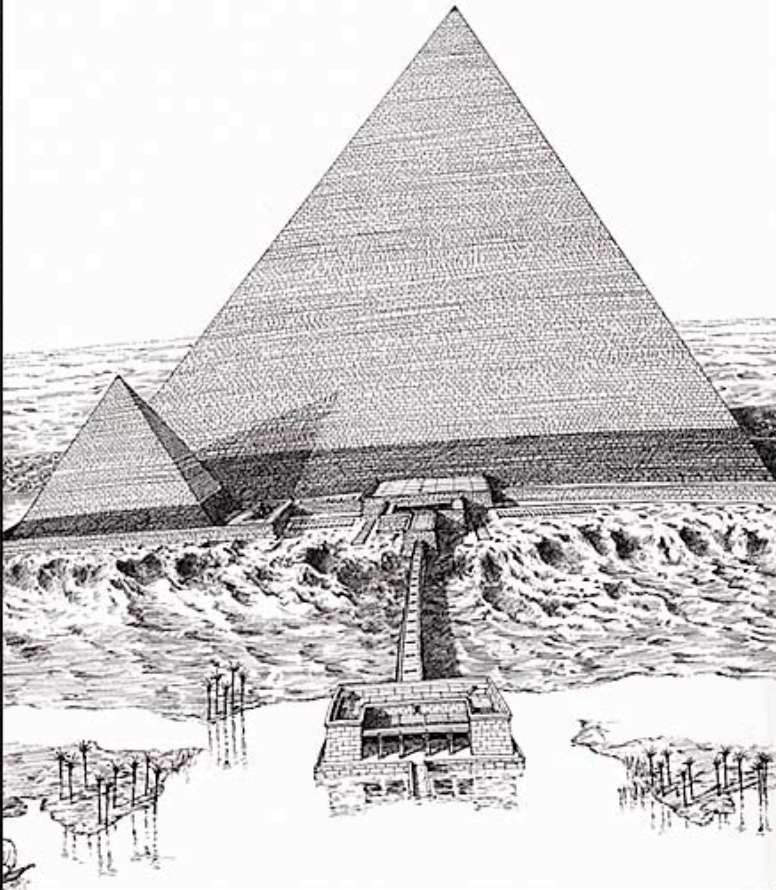


How about these?



PYRAMID

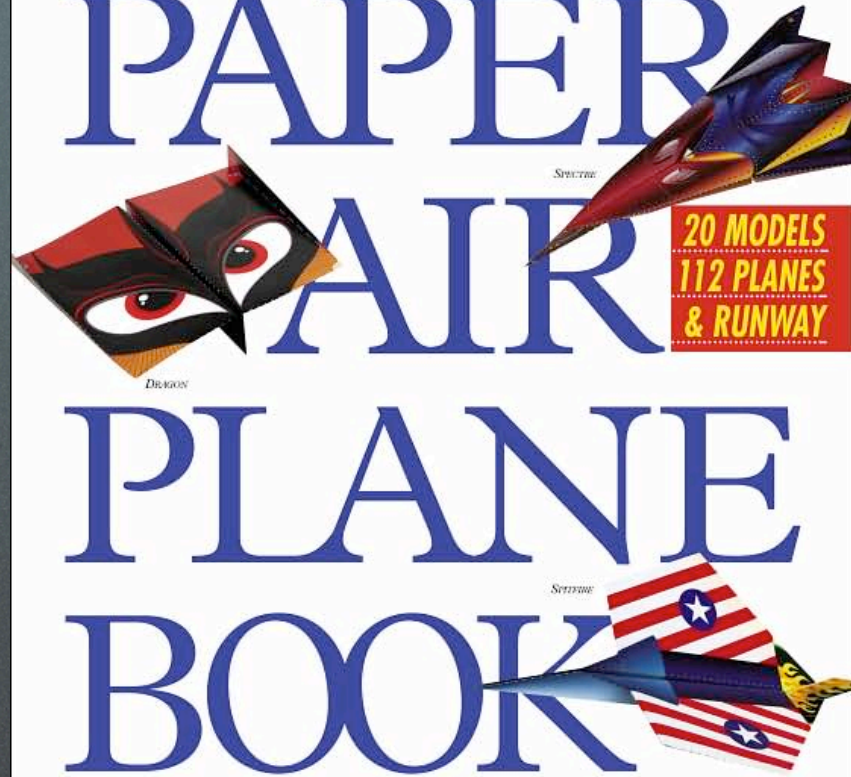
DAVID MACAULAY



THE WORLD RECORD

REVISED & EXPANDED

PAPER AIR PLANE BOOK



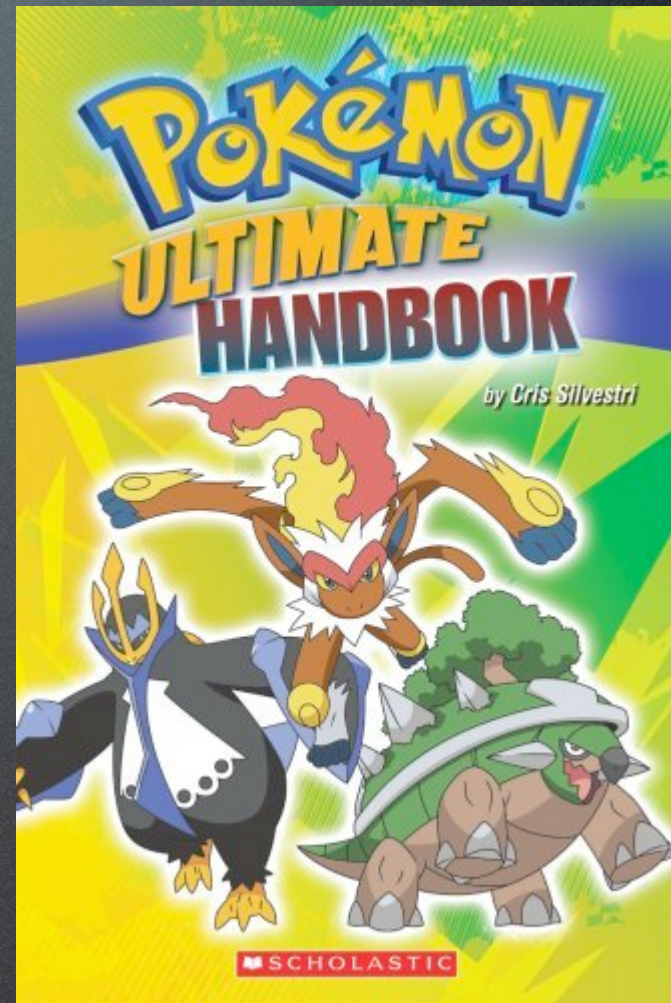
By Ken Blackburn & Jeff Lammers

KEN BLACKBURN HOLDS THE GUINNESS WORLD RECORD FOR PAPER AIRPLANE TIME ALONE WITH A FLIGHT OF 27.6 SECONDS

Or these?

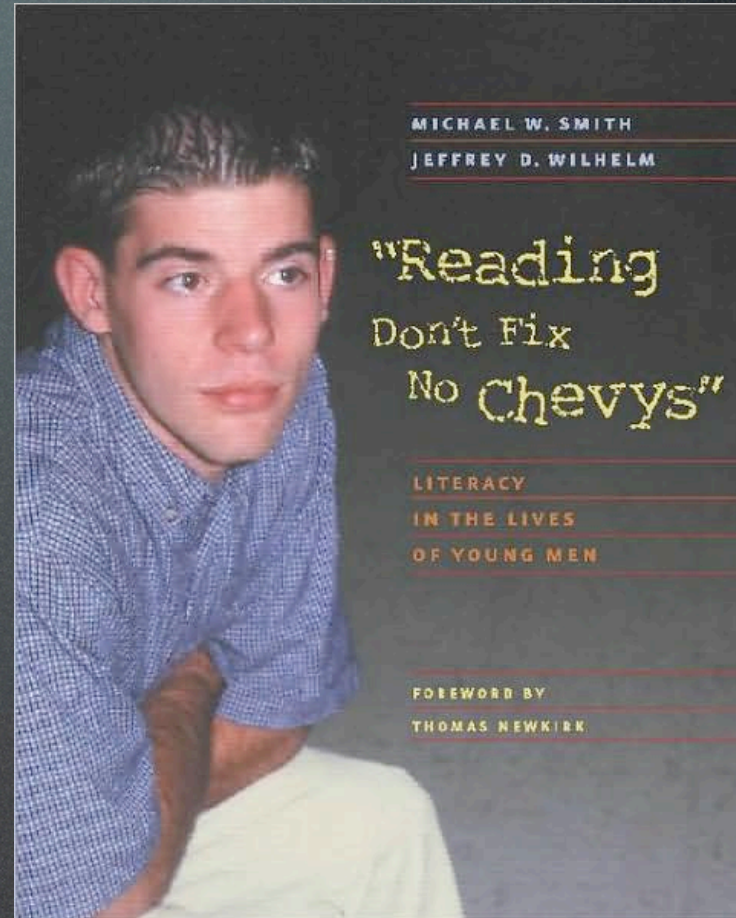
Boys want books with:

**Utility
Action
Attitude
Interest**



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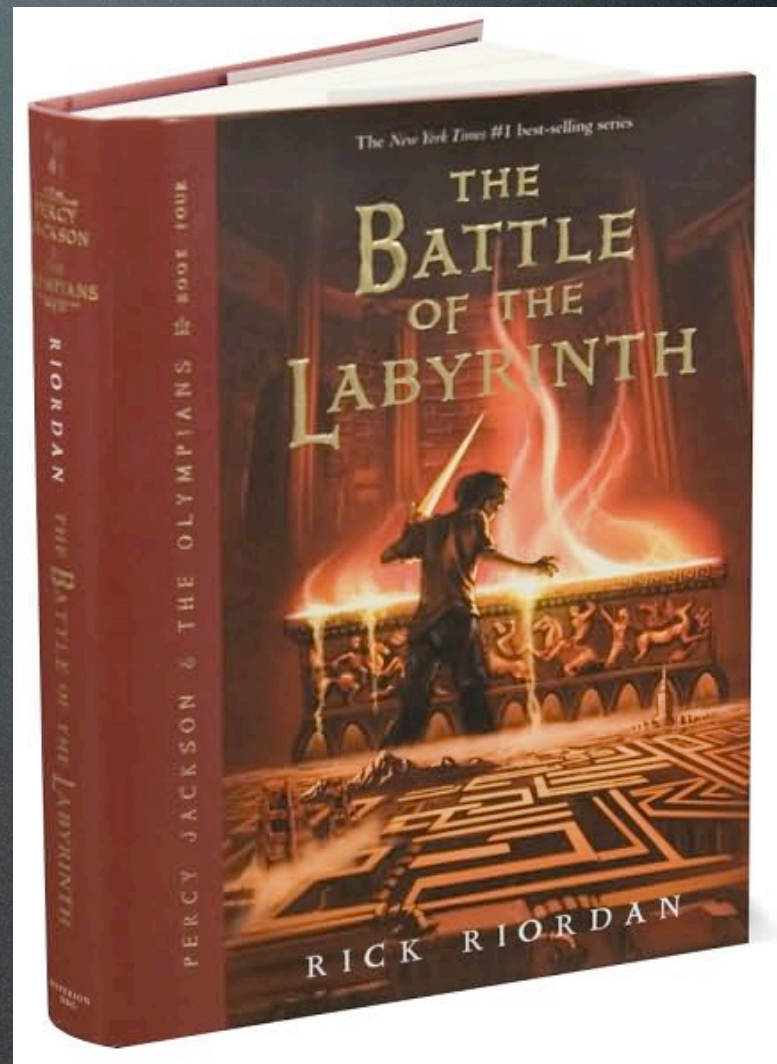
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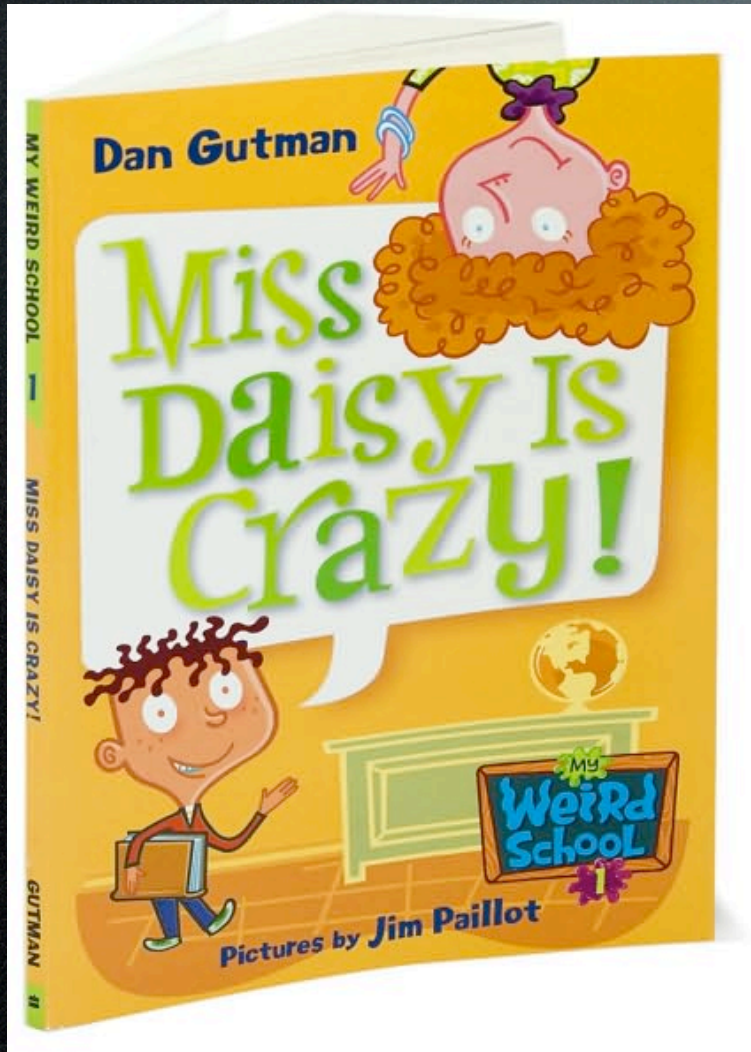
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Jon Scieszka,
National Ambassador for Young People's Literature

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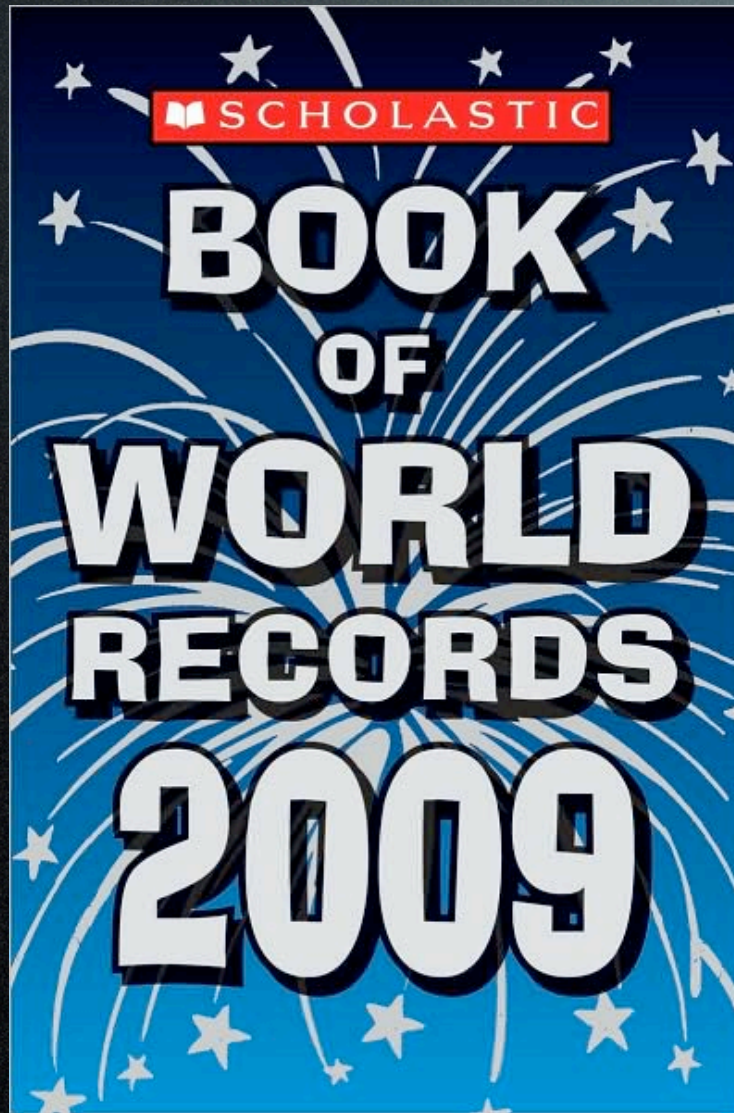
Interest

‘My name is A.J., and I hate school.’

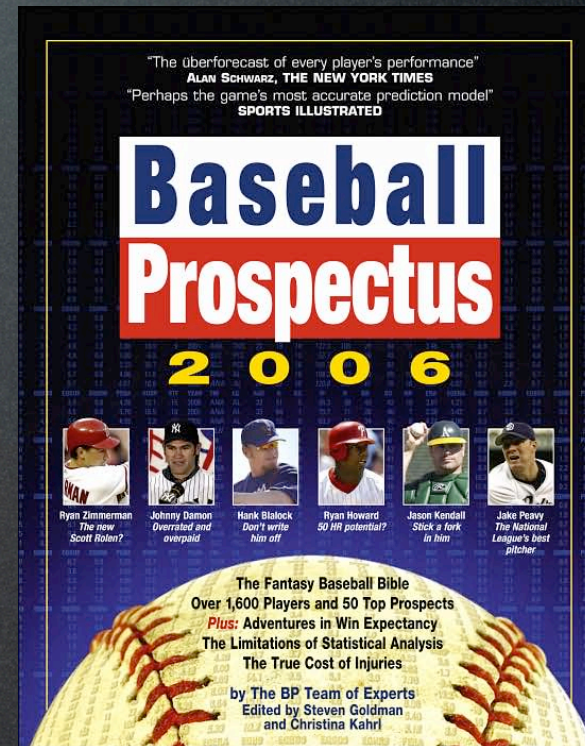
‘Why doesn’t a giant piece of broccoli fall on her head.’

–from Dan Gutman’s My Weird School series

Boys want books with:



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Interest



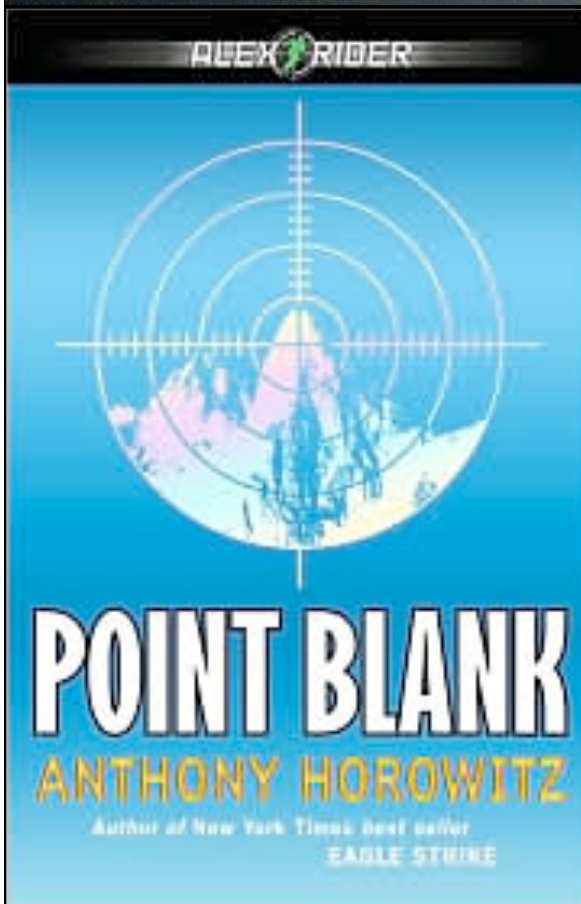
**“Wouldn’t you rather
read a story?”**

Kids' choices should be taken seriously.

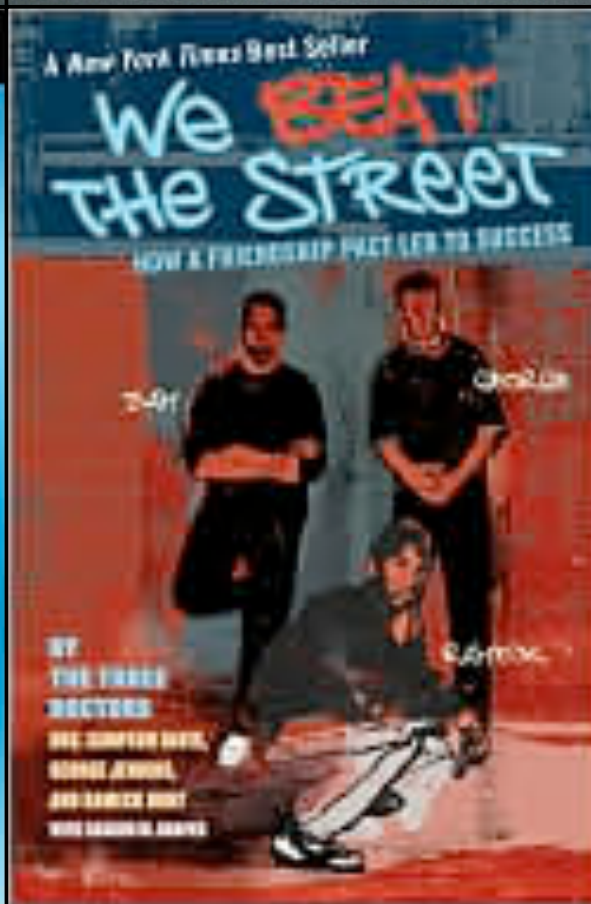
“I put my disdain for a sport before my son's reading development. It is very hard not to do this. As parents we have values that are sometimes at odds with what our kids think is cool. Not a new phenomenon, but one that should be carefully considered when reading material is at issue.”

-a father

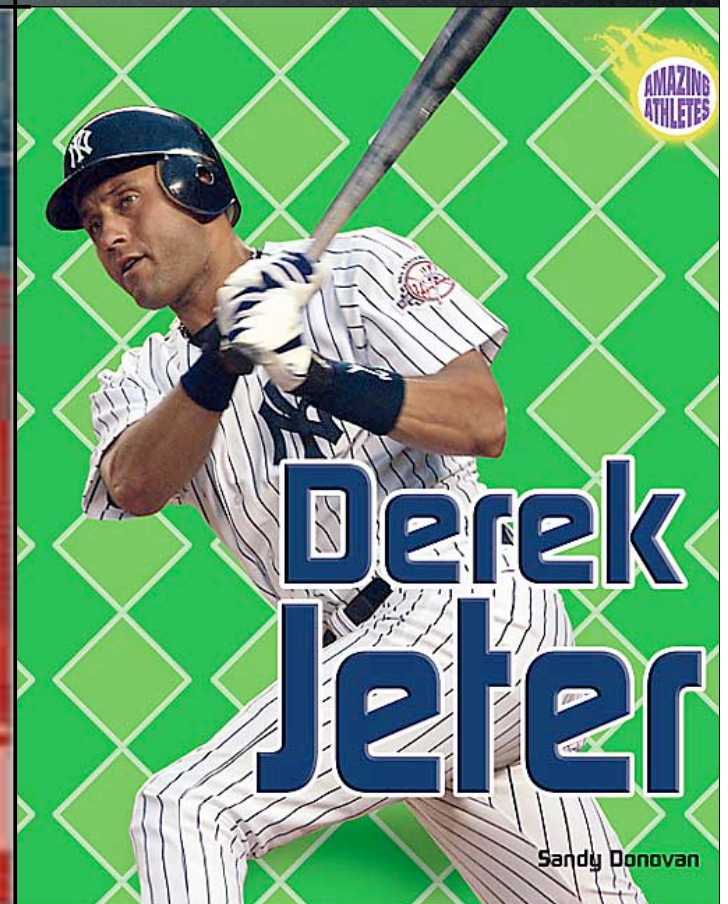
“What do you want to read?”



Action

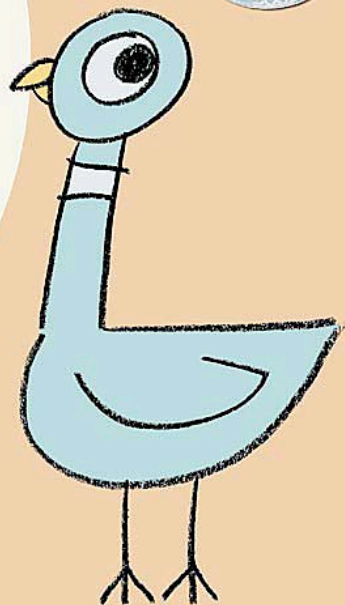


Non-Fiction



Biographies

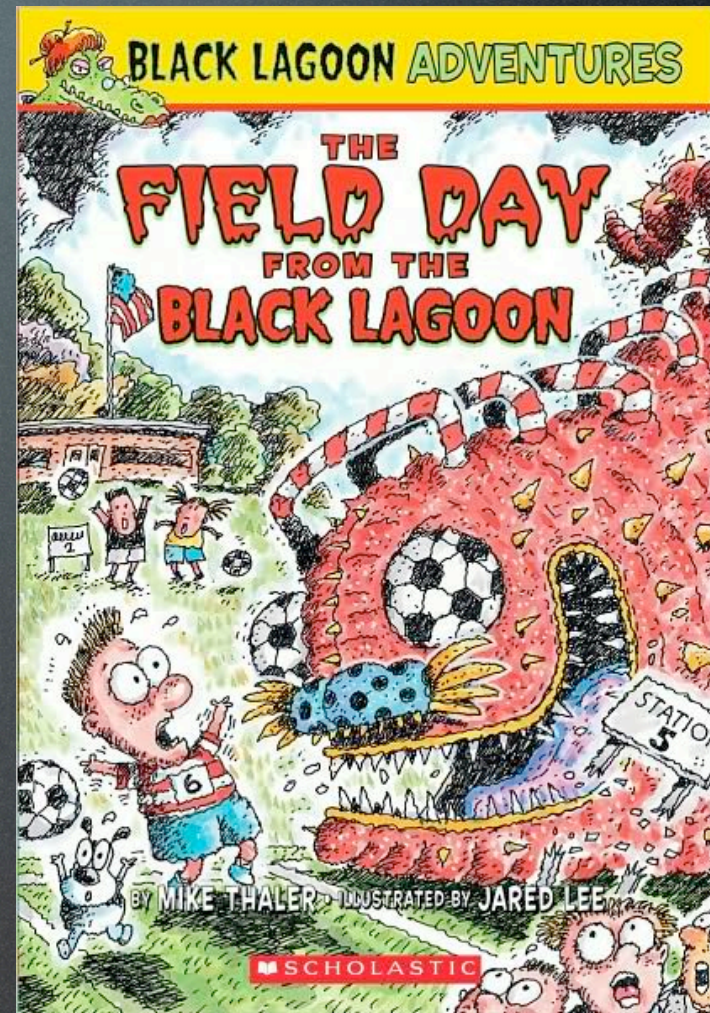
Don't
Let the
Pigeon
Drive
the
Bus!



words and pictures by mo willems

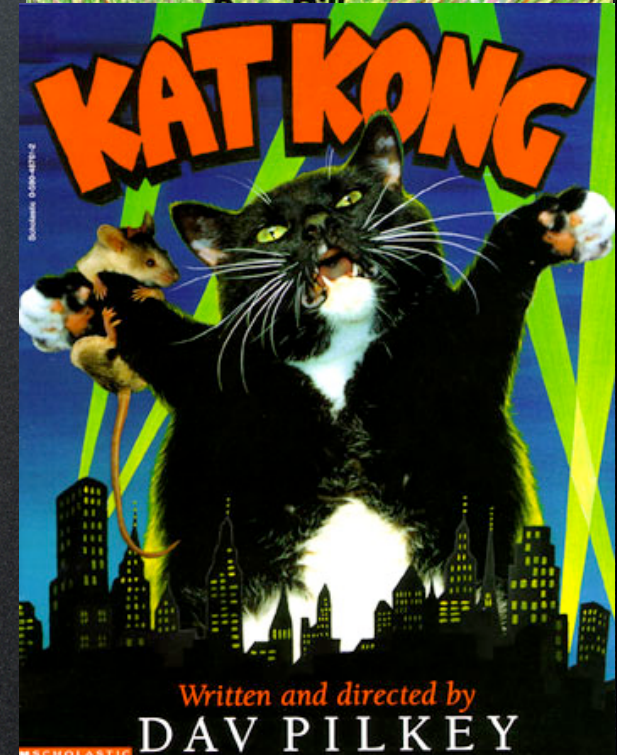
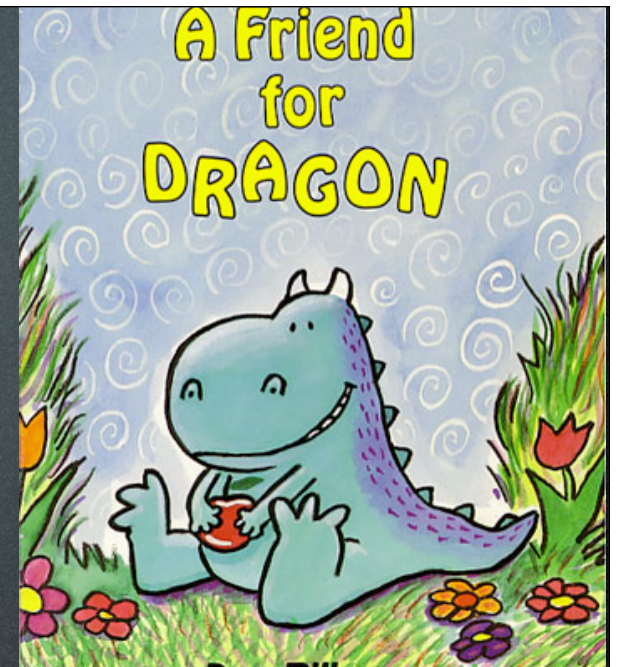
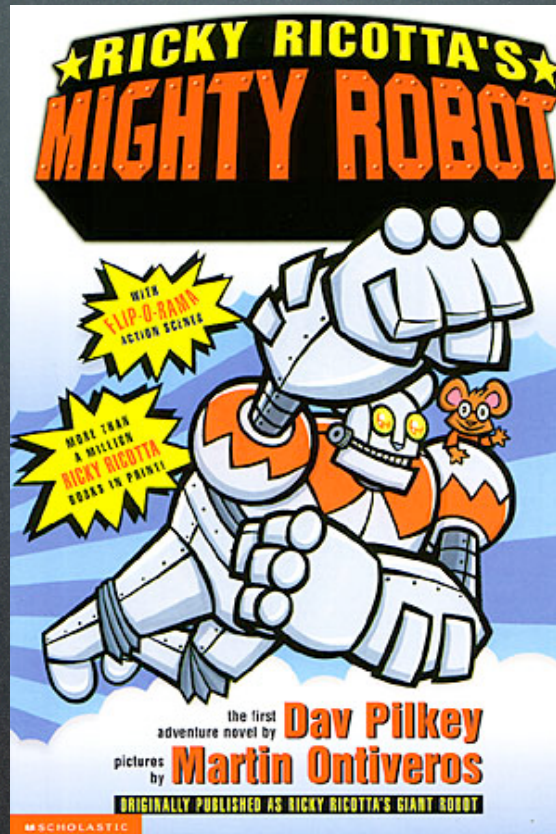
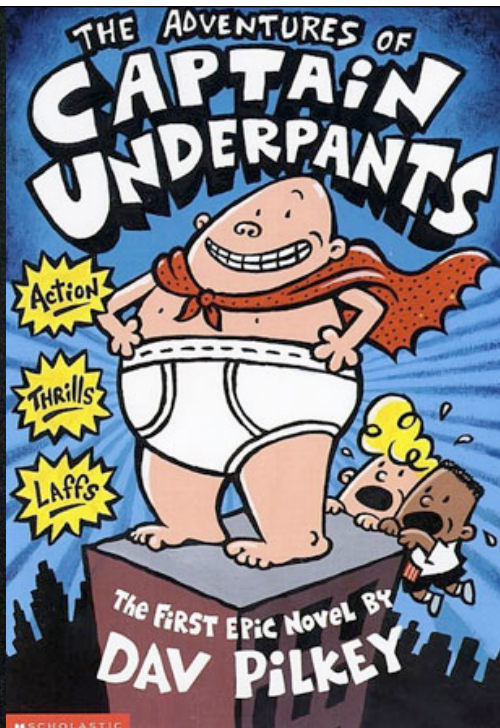
Beginning Readers





Ages 5-8

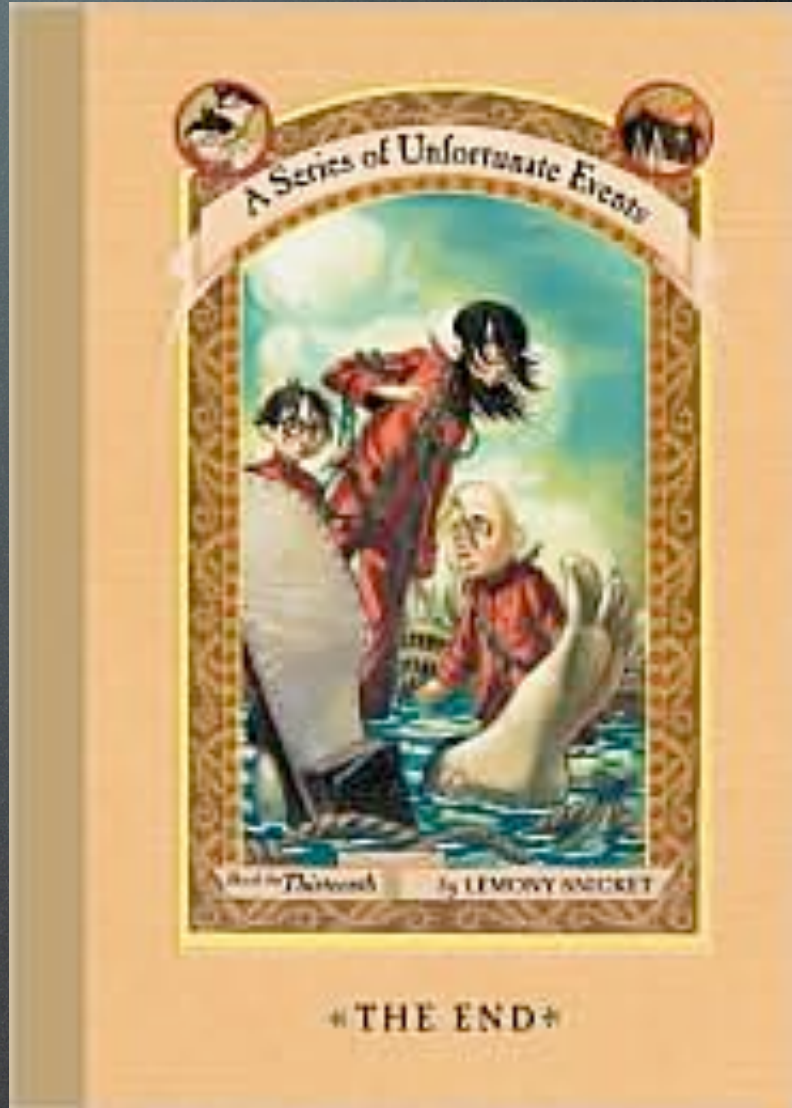
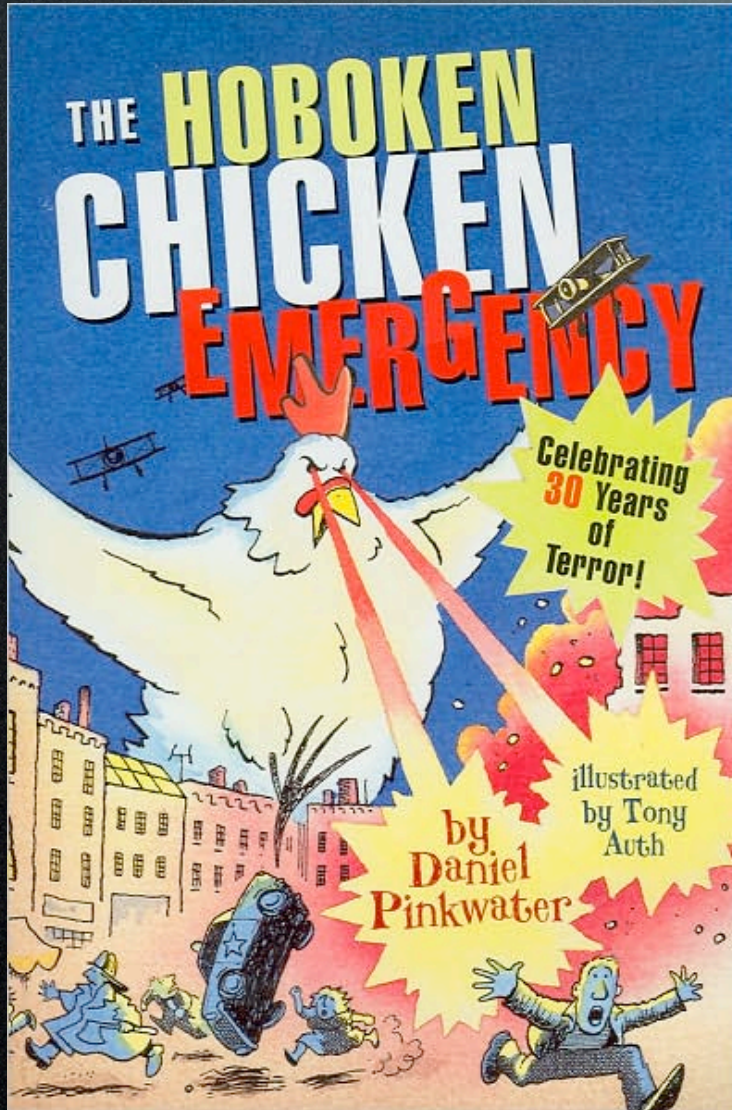
Various Ages





Ages 7+

Ages 8+



GuysRead.com

**GUYS
Read**



HI! I'M JON
SCIESZKA



WELCOME TO GUYS READ

GUYS READ is a web-based literacy program I've made to help boys find stuff they like to read. Get started by checking out recommendations from other GUYS READ visitors. Or go ask GUY what he thinks you might like to read.

TABLE OF CONTENTS



[USE THE LINKS BELOW
TO NAVIGATE GUYS READ]

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GUYS READ

| START YOUR
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| LINKS

Thank you.

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